It's the Real World: From billboards to magazines, Realtors show their faces to all, 7

Head Over Heels: The many faces of love, 4

Today's Weather
High: 63°
Low: 38°

Vets see history repeat itself

Immigration attorney to speak on visas

By Sean Martin

Most students are concerned with finding employment after graduation. For others, their first priority is staying in the country.

To help the latter group of about 250 enrolled students, Cal Poly's International Education and Programs (IEP) office is sponsoring a presentation by immigration attorney Adam Green. The speech will take place at 7 p.m. Friday in Phillips Hall at the Christopher Colburn Center.

Green's presentation will cover the H1 and TN work authorization visas and permanent resident Green Card visas, he said.

Barbara Andre, associate director of immigration, said the collective interests of CSU students, the student trustee must have a strong commitment to representing student concerns to the board, Hemphill said.

"It's a huge responsibility," she said. "(Student trustees) have to have the knowledge and poise to speak up for students in a way that will convince their peers."

Two student trustees sit on the board, but they serve overlapping terms, only the student trustee serving in his or her second year is granted a vote. A stipend of $100 per day is paid to the student trustees when conducting official business of the board.

José Solache, vice chair of external affairs for CSSA, said the association depends on the student trustees to deliver a strong voice in regard to the general perspectives of students.

"We always talk about student involvement and student impact," he said. "It's important that we have a student representative on the board to bring up student concerns." Student trustees may persuade the board to make certain decisions or at least realize a student's perspective on the issue, Solache said.

The T student trustee, who holds the same powers as other trustees, is responsible for attending several board meetings per year, at which he or she presents students' perspectives and concerns to help shape policy.

The Board of Trustees established policy issues that directly impact students, including fees, admissions criteria, housing and parking.

The trustee is also required to attend monthly CSSA meetings and to travel to campuses within the system to identify issues affecting students.

As an advocate who represents

The Commission on Opportunity in Athletics recently met in response to the suit to discuss recommendations for changes to the bill. Proposed changes were released last week.

These recommendations, which will be forwarded to education secretary Rod Paige, addressed how participation by the sexes is measured under the proportionality standard.

Cal Poly athletic director John McCutcheon was quick to respond to the commission's statement that they will always vote in the student trustee's best interest.

"The student trustee must have a strong commitment to representing student concerns to the board, Hemphill said. "It's a huge responsibility," she said. "(Student trustees) have to have the knowledge and poise to speak up for students in a way that will convince their peers."

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"We always talk about student involvement and student impact," he said. "It's important that we have a student representative on the board to bring up student concerns." Student trustees may persuade the board to make certain decisions or at least realize a student's perspective on the issue, Solache said. The position is not simply an honorary or negligible one.

"I know that the trustees always pay attention to the student trustee concerns," Hemphill said. "I don't know that they always vote in the student trustee's best interest."
IMMIGRATION
continued from page 1

IELP, said the speech will help answer any questions students may have. “This is a great opportunity for students to meet with an immigration lawyer and get their questions answered,” Andre said. “A lot of students ask me to recommend a good lawyer to them because they do not have these resources available on campus. This is also a great opportunity for students and members of the community to learn more about immigration policy and get any immigration-related questions they have answered.”

To apply for the H1B, students must have a university degree, earn a state-determined minimum salary and find a job related to their field of study. The TN was created as a part of the North American Free Trade Agreement. It is open only to Canadian and Mexican residents studying in the United States. Students must meet the same criteria as the H1B, minus the minimum salary.

Green Card applicants have to fill out a series of immigration forms. It takes six to seven months for these applications to be approved, Green said.

Most international students at Cal Poly are interested in getting H1B visas, which last about three years, Andre said.

These students use the visa to get on-the-job training in the United States, but have no intent of staying permanently in the country, she said. Green specializes in obtaining visas and Green Cards for international faculty and students.

He is a former foreign student adviser at Harvard University and former chair of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. He currently serves on the association’s committee on foreign students and professors.

If we are going to truly service the walk-on, it still costs the program money, women’s volleyball head coach Schlick said. “If the intent is still female equity then you have to look at (women’s) money (is) spent. Walk-ons cost money too.”

This proposal could have the largest effect on Cal Poly, McCutchon said. “It would give opportunities to a lot of athletes who have been cut,” he explained. “That’s all young people want are opportunities.”

Associate athletic director Allison Cone agreed with McCutchon’s statement, but warned elaborately. “This would be a great change for students who just want a chance to work out with the team and improve their skills, but it is debatable whether it is advantageous for a team to carry these extra athletes,” she said.

The 50-50 proposal was recommen ded by a University of Maryland athletic director Debbie Yow, who likened it to splitting an apple between two people. Members of Cal Poly’s athletic department were opposed to the proposition.

“It’s like if we had that apple, what if there were three people on my side and two on yours,” McCutchon said. “Is that fair?” Cone said the proposal “did not make sense.”

It is too early to see how this would affect the department because the 50-50 rule would most likely undergo change before being made law, she said.

“Our undergraduate enrollment is more male, the opposite of most schools,” she said. “I’m not sure how they would deal with schools that are more male. They would probably make consideration for schools opposite of the trend because there are instances where it would not make sense to have even distribution.”

It could be a long time before actual changes are made to Title IX, McCutchon said. “In the interim it is our job to stay the course,” he said. “We have to do what’s right for both genders and act in a way that is fair and equitable.”

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NATIONAL/BRIEFS

Study: The majority of new- borns in California are Hispanic

LOS ANGELES — For the first time since the late 1950s, Hispanic births accounted for more than half the births in California, according to a study released Wednesday.

Of the 1,398,992 births from July to September 2001, 697,272 of them — 53.2 percent — were Hispanic births, according to a review of birth certificate data by the UCLA Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture.

In 1980, Hispanics accounted for just 29 percent of California births.

“The long-anticipated Latino majority has arrived,” center director David Hayes-Bautista said. “In 2003, it is learning how to walk and will shortly learn to walk.”

He added: “They will be defining the American dream. It's in their hands.”

Last month, the Census Bureau said Hispanics had surpassed blacks as the country's largest minority group. There were 31 million Hispanics as of July 2001, compared with 30.2 million non-Hispanic blacks.

Non-Hispanic whites accounted for 31.4 percent of the California births, followed by 13.1 percent for Asian and Pacific Islanders, and 6.1 percent for blacks.

Two Teams charged in Texas shooting

COLUMBUS — Two men are charged with murder in the shooting of a Columbus student.

LUFKIN, Texas — Two Teams were arrested Wednesday on federal charges they stole pieces of space shuttle Columbia that had dropped onto the countryside.

Federal officials in Texas also declared an amnesty period extending until 5 p.m. Friday, during which time people who have collected shuttle debris can turn it in without fear of prosecution. After that, prosecution will resume, they said.

Meme Higg, 43, of Henderson, Texas, was charged with theft of government property for allegedly stealing a shuttle circuit board on Saturday.

Bradley Justin Gaudet, 23, of Nacogdoches, Texas, was in a separate incident with stealing a piece of thermal insulating fabric. Gaudet is a student at Stephen F. Austin State University.

International Briefs

North Korea says it has reactivated nuclear facilities

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Wednesday that it has reactivated nuclear facilities from nearly a decade and will use them “at the present stage” only to produce electricity, adding additional tension to the crisis over Pyongyang’s nuclear program.

The North’s mass nuclear complex at Yongbyon — the center of a suspected nuclear weapons program in the 1990s — will resume, they said.

“The North Koreans have stepped up the pace of shutting down their nuclear facilities and removing a reference to nerve agents,” said North Korea’s chief negotiator for nuclear talks, Kim Myong-hun.

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Love in the eye of the beholder can still hurt

Webster's Dictionary has been screwing us for years. Ridiculous and useless words like knuckleducatory, quaffable and Internet have wormed their way in, but phrases like salty, joff and hella have been curiously absent. But what irks me most is the obscure and one-dimensional definition of a word that is currently on all of our minds: Love.

Webster's describes love as "the emotion of sex and romance," an explanation that couldn't be less helpful. So, in honor of Valentine's Day, I am devoting two full articles to the topic of love. This week I will try to explain what it is. Next week I'll attempt to triangulate when to say those three magic words, "I love you."

I first fell in love when I was 5 years old, aside the science scissors and Play-Doh of kindergarten. Distraught, I would sit in my room listening to my Minnie Mouse sing-a-long tapes, as she squeaked out her greatest power ballad: "I've Got a Crush on You."

"That's right, Minnie, you sing it sister!" I cried into my apple juice and Nilla Wafers. While I didn't exactly know how to define love, I knew I didn't like it.

Ten years later, I had the misfortune of falling in love again. The only thing worse than my unrequited longing was an unkind adult telling me that I was too young to know what love is. How could I know such pain but not love? I realized then that love, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder; that affection was mine alone and no one had the right to devalue it.

As I've grown older, I've managed to refine the definition a bit more. First of all, there is a big difference between "loving someone" and being "in love" with them. You love your parents, your friends, even your Seven jeans. You may even love your boyfriend but not be in love with him.

After countless tepid romances, I've found that good old-fashioned lust is the key component to falling in love. Lust is what makes your sweetheart smooth around the edges; you can tolerate his lawn mowing, snoring or penchant for purple socks because your attraction subsumes it. Knowing his or her flaws and accepting them anyway is the ultimate sum of falling in love with and caring for someone. One without the other just doesn't jive.

To date someone you're not attracted to is a big waste of time; you know it deep down and that annoyance will manifest itself as nit-picky nagging. Pretty soon you'll be carried up in bed tighter than a tamale, gagging at their embrace. But too much sexual desire can also get in the way of a relationship. Sweetie, if honey than anything else, then perhaps you should cut the ties and find a woman who appreciates you for more than the act of reproduction.

Some people are easily smitten; others have only one beloved in a lifetime. Both perspectives are equally valid, neither deserving ridicule. Like the wise old Jew J. R. R. Tolkien once said, love is about pain.

In a creative writing class I took, the professor asked us to describe falling in love. Pretty soon we all shut up or even started to snore. Perhaps you should cut the ties and find a basic bootie call instead. Finding a balance between intimacy, passion and trust is harder than it seems.

The most important thing to remember is that you cannot fully love someone until you love yourself. We must be fulfilled on our own before love can truly satiate us. To share oneself with a soulmate is impossible if we don't know what half we are, or what we need in return. It's like going to the grocery store without checking the cabinets first; you end up with all mac and no cheese.

Letters to the editor

Accountability importance in abortion issue

Editor,

In response to Susan Otto's letter ("Abortion is a woman's issue, not man's."), Jan. 30, I would just like to say that I totally agree with your main point, Ms. Otto, that "women must be able to control their reproductive choices." However, I do have a few questions regarding your definition of terms. You see, "true use of "reproductive" implies that something must already exist or has been in order to "control" (abort)."

This clearly retroactive choice confuses me since the purpose of reproduction is to reproduce, not abort. Did you mean, "women must be able to control their reproductive choices," but I would simply like to add one thing to your argument (something that most anti-abortion minimalists lack): It is something called accountability. At what point in the history of this nation, by which we claim the protection of our rights, were our freedoms not attained at some cost? You see, Ms. Otto and anyone wishing to protect their right to freedom of choice, it is very easy to skirt the issue of accountability and to refuse responsibility for our own choices when the consequences of our choices negative impact or no longer justify the lifestyles we live. With freedom comes responsibility, and choices have consequences. In your own words, Ms. Otto, "I know it sounds harsh, but it's one of life's hard truths."

Peter Uzi is a graphic communication junior and acknowledges that his life was bought at a price (John 3:16).

Butler University Graphic Systems

Opinion

An easy way to make a girl feel really special is to tell her she is sexier than any girl you've ever downloaded.

Barry Hayes
More letters to the editor

Opinion
Thursday, February 6, 2003

Women aren't "burdened" by childbirth

Editor,

I commend all of the men who wrote in expressing their anti- feminist stance. I realize that they are being jabbed at daily for your compassion concerning human life. As a female, I believe that you have a say in the matter. If women are going to justifiably shout about because of all of the deaths of males who name this birth right to not be denied and must provide for their children, then we ought to listen to the responsible men who understand the beauty and power of procreation.

It is sickening to listen to you women on power trips who are "burdened" because of the natural gift of childbearing that you were blessed with. Let's not forget the choice that you were given to choose to have sex or not. Grow up and stop blaming men for everything. If you could see past your own self-pity, you might come to appreciate being a woman. The 40 million babies that we have killed as a pro-choice nation affects men's lives also. They are their nieces, nephews, families and communities that they will never know. Furthermore, to dispose of Enron executives is not to more than 200 members of Congress from BOTH parties. The Enron scandal, right? It's just so funny. Enron employees, your compassionate concern for human life. As a female, I

Bu.sh-appointed head of the SEC, William Pitt, came from a law school that represented Enron's accounting firm, Arthur Andersen in January was to cut the SEC enforcement budget. I read the paper that Enron was to be the very first SEC enforcement action. I see that Attorney General John Ashcroft has asked federal prosecutors to seek the death penalty for a murder suspect even though he's alleged to testify against others tied to a Colombian drug ring in exchange for a life sentence. Even if he ever goes to jail, John Ashcroft thought the federal prosecutors are disturbed by his insistence on seeking the death penalty in some cases where they recommended against it. These are the same federal prosecutors who convict non-violent drug offenders like Ed Rosenthal to prison sentences with raping and murdering. I can't understand how the

Let's just pretend the commercial is correct, and drug money does support terrorism. Wouldn't that make... oh forget it. I will offer the whole key to everlasting happiness? I am tired of putting that day in, this is my generation. What a pathetic sight to see the western world that we can bring into the world. Don't you think that just maybe these God-given lives would contribute to society? If you truly believe that abortion serves as maintaining a "balance" in society, then I hope that you are keeping the evil scale in check. Ladies, as you weigh your options please remember that human life is precious; more than just DNA, more than another number in the world. We were all originally, fetus or sperm of human life, and there are men out there who will support you.

Mike Lyon is an industrial engineering senior.

Christians shouldn't tell us what to think

Editor,

Concerning Jonathan Dow's letter, "Christians shouldn't think of self" (Feb. 3). I came to Cal Poly to acquire the means to get a job and thus make money to successfully raise moral, responsible children. My dream is to enter the world. I did NOT come to Cal Poly to continually be told by "Christians" that I am missing the point. Who are you to tell me what my ultimate "truth" should be? I have generally believed that only one pithy doctrine will offer the whole key to everlasting happiness? I am tired of being told daily, in this paper and on campus, that I am an inferior person because my "truth," regardless of how moral and righteous it may be, differs from the Christian norm. I can count the number of times I have been told by "well-meaning" people that I am going to hell. Thanks for the tip. With it, let me change my principles and ideals so I can spend the afterlife with all you open-minded folks. Your truth does not offend me. I admire the commitment of those brave enough to share their views in a public forum. All I ask is that the same writers "love thy neighbor," regardless of what their "truth" may be.

Tracy Hasz is a agriculture science senior.

Americans need more humility with Iraq

Editor,

I noticed something very interesting while watching a press conference on television today. Most people in politics and media refer to President Saddam Hussein by his first name. It is disturbing that the Western world feels free to refer to the leader of a country in such a disrespectful way. I see this pretentiousness in all aspects of America's foreign policy debates. I am surprised that the people who refer to the president of Iraq, most simply shrug it off without a second thought. This arrogance frightens me. I do believe that President Hussein needs to be confronted with his actions that are antagonizing the Iraq. As a woman, I know that people is a poor way to do it. It is possible, and productive, to treat the opposition with deference in any conflict.

America's arrogance in our foreign policies gives many foreigners reason to dislike us. The Iraqi situation provides a good example. I have heard arguments from different points of view, and they all share a belief in their own correctness. No one can pretend to know all facets of a situation like the one with Iraq. It is important to recognize one's own lack of knowledge in order to form a compelling argument. This requires modesty.

Personally, I do not want to go to war with Iraq and I hope that none of the world leaders do either. However, I understand that we have an obligation to ensure the safety of our home and the homes of others. I just hope that we can all learn a little humility. Perhaps then the rest of the world will begin to see us as an equal rather than a regulator.

Jeff Beckman is a mechanical engineering junior.

Pro-choice proponents should learn more self-control

Editor,

As a woman, not only did Miecal Hoffman's letter ("Abortion is a woman's issue, not man's," Jan. 31) absolutely insult my autonomy, it also is a tremendous disservice to the millions of us who struggle to balance our lives. It is a woman's right to choose what happens to your body? Wake up and realize that you are not the only one who could possibly rob yourself of that liberty. The same for the next time, right?

Is the prospect of controlling your "biological urges" too daunting? Will your boyfriend get his feelings all ruffled? Too bad! We are not animals. We have the ability to reason and control our actions. I can't understand why more of us (especially as brilliant undergraduates) refuse to accept that responsibility. Having some control over oneself is an amazingly liberating experience, and I recommend it to anyone.

Also, did it ever occur to you that conceiving a child is the result of an act of sexual intercourse going right? That's what's supposed to happen! A fundamental problem surrounding this issue is that people are engaging in sex in ways inconsistent with their nature. What do eating, sleeping and sex have in common? They are all essential for our survival; eating and sleeping allow our bodies to function, while sex is the means by which we reproduce. Therefore, we must do the things that support all of these actions, but it is not the inherent purpose of any of them. Only when sex is taken out of its natural framework does the world view sex as a "crisis." Once we look at sex as a natural consequence (i.e. developing baby) become an issue.

Lacie Collins is a history junior.

Both abortion sides are important

Editor,

Forgive my ignorance toward people's feelings and experiences in this matter, but I have a serious problem with the woman's side. Their words and unpleasing feelings that swarms around the abortion debate can clear away if those who wish to yell at others for not seeing their seemingly obvious logic were first to examine their own familiarity with the logic that seems obvious to those others. I suggest that this issue is conditionally unsolvable, so no one has the right to treat the other viewpoint disrespectfully.

I hope that members of a moderate audience (one that doesn't consist of either people who take pleasure in terminating developing dependent organisms or of people who plot the murders of abortion clinic workers) can evaluate this statement with fairness and objectivity: Anti-abortion advocates tend to place much value on idealism, while pro-choice advocates tend to place much value on practicality. Both are healthy and important, but the view wars against each other in everyone's minds. While human life is a "miraculous" phenomenon observed on earth, the cultivation of which is subjectively good, sacred, and valuable, on average humans produce too many offspring to reasonably expect to support. This state is unfortunate, and the existence of such a debate is sufficient evidence for the need for the state to change, but change comes slowly, especially when the children and the society changing is unhealthy. In the meantime, let's be civil, because no one becomes more willing to change by becoming defensive.

Brandon Wricker is a computer science senior.
Equestrian therapy benefits riders, volunteers

By Alexa Ratcliffe

There are a handful of classes at Cal Poly that require community service hours, but they often leave students stumped when deciding how to fill those hours.

One alternative option when it comes to words "community service," they quickly resort to thoughts of beach cleanups and ladling soup at the local homeless shelter.

"I usually have 25 to 30 people helping," said head coordinator Lonna Nielsen. "But we've been down a little bit lately."

Colleen Jones, kinesiology junior and PET board member, said no prior experience with horses is needed, just a willingness to help.

"I was looking for a way to be involved with horses, but I also knew that I wanted to work with disabled people," Jones said. "Now I get the best of both worlds."

Volunteer hours can count toward community service hours that might be needed for a Cal Poly class, but they can also be extremely rewarding.

"It's not something you can see in one day," Nielsen said. "To see a child the first time and then the tremendous progression as the weeks go on is amazing."

All volunteers are put through an hour-long training session to become familiar with the horses and all of the lesson procedures.

They then can choose to volunteer as little as one hour biweekly or up to six hours a week.

Volunteers are involved in caring for the horses and assisting during the riding lessons.

PET’s main goal is to offer an excellent means of physical activity while developing a positive attitude and sense of accomplishment for their riders, according to the PET Web site.

The therapy sessions not only benefit the riders mentally, but physically as well, according to their Web site. Through their sessions riders can improve their balance, posture and coordination. They also learn how to groom their horses and the proper equipment involved in riding.

The movement involved in riding is really good for their bodies," Jones said.

PET uses Norwegian Fjord horses in their lessons. These horses have a very similar walking gait to that of a human’s walking gait, Jones said.

Since the motion is so similar, it makes them excellent horses for therapy.

Currently PET has around 30 students of various ages and disabilities that range from autism to stroke victims.

Since PET is a non-profit organization, the riders or their families solely fund them. They also offer a scholarship program for those who want to take lessons but cannot afford it.

To find out how to become a PET volunteer, check their Web site at www.jesherry.com/pet/index.html.
Most Poly students won't need the services of a real estate agent for a few years, but walking around San Luis Obispo, one wonders if we're in agent heaven. Billboards, magazine kiosks and "for sale" signs are all embedded with the likeness of agents vying for our business. Why are the people selling houses so obsessed with putting their photo on everything? We don't choose a dentist, mechanic or hairstylist because of their friendly can-do smile captured in a photo. Are their looks any indication of how well they can sniff out the perfect property or close the deal? Mustang Daily sent curious reporter Steve Hill to do some digging into this cultural curiosity and to look into what exactly makes a good real estate photo.

STORY BY
STEVE HILL

PHOTO BY
BRYAN DICKERSON
Some agents choose to use pictures that are upwards of 20 years old, much to the bewilderment of the unsuspecting client.

Many agents, in fact, echoed this sentiment: that the connection between a face and a name is essential for gaining credibility in a market wrought with fierce competition. Exposure, they say, is the key element for a real estate agent’s success.

“Some people may not know my name, but they may recognize (my face),” said Tim Riley, a realtor with Century 21 in San Luis Obispo. “Maybe (clients) recognize me because I go to their church or they recognize me because I’m in a club they are in, and they may feel comfortable talking with me because they recognize me.”

But why do real estate agents — as opposed to, say, used car salesmen — rely so heavily on photography?

“Putting Your Best Face Forward
A customer may often be surprised that, upon meeting face to face with a Realtor, the agent may not look the same as he or she did on the business card — namely, the realtor looks older. In fact, some agents choose to use pictures that are upwards of 20 years old, much to identify with, it humanizes the Realtor,” Slem said. “It kind of makes them into a person you might have trust and confidence in.”

Would just a name suffice? Looking down on commuters from Highway 101, Nancy Hanneman does a little name or face recognition.

people buying their retirement home, you’re going to have a different clientele with a different appeal than you are to people that are in college looking for a rental,” Carroll said.

No matter the clientele, though, said Slem said agents work on a couple of psychological levels. First, they tap into the customer’s memory bank with the name-face coupling. Next, they go for emotional appeal to build a true connection.

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REAL ESTATE  
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the bewilderness of the unsuspecting client and fellow Realtors.
Lisa Simon, a lecturer in Cal Poly's marketing department, said that, although this method of advertisement may seem deceptive, it is really an innocent form of gaining attention.

"If you think of what a Realtor is selling, he or she is trying to sell something; now, if you look better in high school senior photo." said with a laugh. "But they just want their best photo out there. You know, I have a little more gray hair now. But do I have the time to run out and sit down and take the picture every year? I don't."

Younger agents such as Riley, 26, or wrappers hint at the treasures held inside as your greedy hands rip the package apart to reveal... Bob Bukan, Julia R. Struve and David J. Chmiel. The intense feeling of excitement is transformed into confusion. Only one question remains: Who are these people? As you may have guessed, this is no ordinary set of trading cards. These are People Cards. Their purpose is not to celebrate sports heroes and the famous. Instead, they embrace the everyday people and proudly claim to be "100 percent celebrity-free."

The card's format is much like any sports trading card. They have a picture on the front and facts on the back like favorite movie, color, Web site, foods, animals and hobbies. They include a short biography on the individual and some random bit of trivia (did you know Bozo the Clown wore size 83AA dogs?). Every person on every card is real and extremely personal.

According to the People Cards Web site, "people may not share this much about themselves with close friends."

Take, for example, David J. Chmiel, card number 82. He has long brown hair, a goatee and wears huge yellow tinted glasses. He doesn't have today's celebrated six-pack abs, instead, he has more "I drink a six-pack a day" abs. His favorite movie is anything made from a book, and his favorite book is anything made from a movie. His most used expression is flipping "the bird," and his idea of perfect happiness is never being married.

Some of my other favorites include David L. Greene, number 94, whose favorite places are Las Vegas and on top of his fiancee. Kathy Ann Pernatt, number 85, is a postal worker whose current state of mind is disgruntled.

Or how about Ralphs David Pipito Jr., number 12, whose most pronounced habit is farting and then laughing about it! His motto: "Pull my finger."

The cards proudly claim to be "100 percent celebrity-free."

They are more along the lines of someone you would bump into at the Circle K. Although it seems like an odd concept, it is true. The majority of people on this planet don't have personal trainers, plastic surgeons, nutritionists and people to dress them.

We are all different, with quirks, imperfections and weaknesses. It is these same downfalls - as well as talents - that make us unique and, in this case, cause for celebration.

By Andrea Srobona  
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

No childhood memory can compare with that of opening a pack of trading cards. Their metallic exterior wraps hurt at the treasures held inside as your greedy hands rip the package apart to reveal... Bob Bukan, Julia R. Struve and David J. Chmiel. The intense feeling of excitement is transformed into confusion. Only one question remains: Who are these people?

At your request, you may have guessed, this is no ordinary set of trading cards. These are People Cards. Their purpose is not to celebrate sports heroes and the famous. Instead, they embrace the everyday people and proudly claim to be "100 percent celebrity-free."

Founded by Brant E. Herman, Todd A. Herman and Brian P. Mullet, the cards encourage people to "dump false idols."

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In a world where idols and heroes are found in overpaid celebrities, the cards bring us back to reality. These aren't the people you would expect to find in the winner's circle or even in your social circle.

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COURTESY PHOTO/MUSTANG DAILY

Glenda Jones is card #44 and offers trivia about Bozo the clown on her card.

The Graduate
Restaurant
Comedy Night
Feb. 11th, 2003
990 Industrial Way
Starring: Jerry Corey
9:00-9:30PM
For Reservations Call 805-541-0969
KCPR
91.3

Happy Hour
Every Day 5-8:00PM
Food & Drinks available all day

Ple

Student Discount
10% off with ID

Recipe Book
805-541-0969

Kicks Pot Pies
Sides - Salsas
Home made Desserts

For reservations, call 805-541-0969

Gourmet Pot Pies

For reservations, call 805-541-0969
VETERANS 2
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The United States of America's involvement in the Vietnam War was a conflict that affected many veterans, including Charles Burt. As a Marine Corps pilot, Burt flew missions into North Vietnam, and during the Vietnam period, he said, "(Vietnam) was a very confusing war relatively unscathed, he admits the United States as mercenaries. Although Burt emerged from the war relatively quickly. Mullisen said. "We knew the war was coming to a close and we knew we were not winning. We were just trying to live through it."

Spring Rush 2003

Thursday, February 6, 2003


t never got worked out."

With the looming possibility of a war with Iraq, Montgomery is concerned with the frivolous loss of American lives. The potential use of biological and chemical weapons against U.S. troops is his paramount fear, he said.

"As a civilian, I am not convinced yet that going to war is worth the potential loss of lives," he said. "As a veteran, I know our military can do what we have to do."

In fact, the idea of national service makes Montgomery "beam with pride."

However, as honorable as it may be, he and other veterans recognize the inherent risks.

"The toughest thing for the American people is that we don't have much resiliency," said Charles Burt, a bioresources and agricultural engineering professor at Cal Poly, and received intelligence from the Division in the central highlands of Cambodia and Laos. He was awarded the Bronze Star for valor in combat.

"I was gung-ho," Burt said. In addition to duties as a combat demolition specialist, Burt trained and received intelligence from the Montagnard Tribesmen, an ethnically separate group employed by the United States as mercenaries. Although Burt emerged from the war relatively unscathed, he admits that the situation in Vietnam was an unstable one.

"(Vietnam) was a very confusing time. The officers couldn't maintain discipline," Burt said, referring to the drug and racial problems that further compounded the magnitude of the war.

Having experienced the polarization of public sentiment following Vietnam, Burt is weary of the potential divisiveness of the situation with Iraq. "It will rip the nation apart if we don't have a just cause," Burt said.

History proves that the situation in Vietnam was an intrinsically part of war, Burt said. However, the threat that Iraq poses is a grim reality, he said. "I'm not a pacifist," Burt said. "I believe there's evil in the world."

Burt's concerns echo those of Ron Mullisen, a mechanical engineering professor at Cal Poly for the past 24 years.

"With terrorism in our own backyard, we recognize a threat which was not recognizable during the Vietnam period," he said. As a Marine Corps pilot, Mullisen was stationed in Thailand, during which time he flew missions into North Vietnam at night and South Vietnam during the day.

During his tour, from 1972 to 1973, the offensive had changed from one of fighting to withdraw-

"The period I was there represented the end of Vietnam," Mullisen said. "We knew the war was coming to a close and we knew we were not winning. We were just trying to live through it."

While the goal of the Vietnam effort was to eradicate communism in a third-world country, the current situation remains uncertain for Mullisen.

"I would like to see more of a connection between the potential threat and how Iraq poses that threat before we make a commitment," he said.
**Mustangs tame Wildcats**

- Team opens league with 41-3 romp over University of Arizona

**WAVRIE**

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**Cal Poly Rugby**

**Mustangs tame Wildcats**

- Team opens league with 41-3 romp over University of Arizona

By Olga Berdal

**The silent death.**

That's how Tony Petruzzella described the Cal Poly rugby team's attitude as they opened their first league game against the University of Arizona.

In front of a Friday crowd of more than 200, Petruzzella and his teammates were able to dominate the Wildcats by a final score of 41-3.

Since the team is mostly comprised of returning members, everyone knows each other pretty well and doesn't need to be pumped up, said Petruzzella, an athletic business junior.

"We all feel of each other," said John Kennard, the team's flyhalf, describing the energy the team builds as they gain momentum during a match.

"We're more seasoned and relaxed," Kennard said.

The team was expecting more of a challenge from Arizona because of their athleticism, said Nick Giacalone, the team's captain.

"Arizona is one of the better teams in our league," Giacalone said, "and our league is a tough one to dominate.

Friday night's match was more difficult than the score implied, said Petruzzella, the team's flanker.

"It was a really hard-hitting and very physical match," Kennard said. "We were able to take it and roll with it. We really took it to them."

Another aspect that enabled the Cal Poly team to succeed is the fact that the players are comfortable working together, said Giacalone, who's played on the team for four years.

"A lot of our starters are returners, so it helps with the continuity," Giacalone said.

The potential is there, head coach Charles Zanoli said.

"We're just realizing how good we are," Zanoli said. "We're looking forward to representing Cal Poly in the national tournament for the first time in history."

Zanoli added, however, that the team still has a lot of rugby to play before any hopes for a national title can be held.

"We don't want to get overly confident too early," Zanoli said.

Giacalone is expecting a tough battle with San Diego State University.

"During my four years of playing on the team, we've never beaten them, Giacalone said.

Yet the Cal Poly rugby team has a distinct edge, said team member and psychology senior Brian Barnard.

"We go into every game expecting to play hard and to dominate," Barnard said.

It is this tough attitude that makes the games so exciting, even though most spectators have to stand through the 80-minute game, said Minds Record, a dairy science freshman and fan at Friday's win.

"They say it's likefootball, but there are no pads, no timeouts," Record said. "It's a really intense game that's fun to watch.

"I'm an analyst," continued Barnard.

"Most people who come out want to watch, come again," Kennard said.

**Coach Firman doesn't let the iniquities his team faces get him down.**

"You just deal with it," he said. "We take what we can get and with whom we can get it." Firman said that team captains - Stacy Peterson and Mary Thomas - have a good chance of making the Division l national championships, competing against the best swimmers in the nation and possible Olympic contenders.

"They're right on the verge of being able to do that, and that's pretty phenomenal to do with a non-scholarship program," he said.

The lack of scholarships means that many of the women have to balance work along with school and practice, something that seems impossible to members of the San Diego State team.

"We spend about 30 hours per week swimming," Schmied said. "If we had to work, we probably wouldn't be here."

Peterson says that despite the problems, team spirit remains high. The swim team because they love the sport.
It's not just a game

Mustangs' star center takes basketball seriously in video games and life

By Sean Martin

Mustangs' Daily Staff Writer

Varnie Dennis heaves the basketball in the air just as the final buzzer sounds. He holds his breath along with his teammates and thousands of fans as the ball falls toward the rim. The gym explodes into pandemonium as the ball skitters nylon. Fans rush the floor to celebrate the Mustangs' first NCAA championship.

This scenario may whine many Mustang fans to sleep, but for Dennis, a junior forward on the Cal Poly men's basketball team, it's not only a lifelong goal but also a scenario he often plays out on his X-Box.

Dennis, in his deep, booming voice, calls X-Box his "best friend, girlfriend and everything else" for several reasons.

The main reason is that video games also allow him to take control, something very important to Dennis. "I love them because I can be coach, player and everything," he said. "I control it all."

Control is a central theme in his life by the numbers

Three-day crowd for the Cal Poly baseball team's series against Saint Mary's last weekend — second-largest three-game total in the history of Baggett Stadium. The Mustangs swept past the Gaels and are 4-2. Cal Poly hosts San Jose State Friday at 6 p.m., Saturday at 1 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m.

By Alina Neacy

Mustangs' Daily Staff Writer

The women's swim team lost to San Diego State last Friday by the score of 158-81. But despite obstacles in funding, what the women of Cal Poly swimming lacked in points, they made up for in effort.

The loss at Mott Pool was still a win for head coach Richard Firmian.

"We had numerous season-best times, and although this Aztec team was stronger than us on paper, in a number of the events we battled them," he said. "Our girls got in there and really fought hard in the races and it paid off in their times."

The first event was the 200 meter medley relay. Stacy Davistin led the Mustangs with six points, they made up for in effort.

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